5:Roquette-Pinto E-4 (no date)1913 SP17 Nambicuara SP17

Abstract.

Little has hitherto been known of the Nhambiquára who inhabit the valley of the Juruena and are spread thence to the rivers Sararé and Galéra, affluents of the Guaporé. In 1909, an official Brazilian explorer, Colonel Rondon, during his journey in the interior of Matto Grosso, was able to enter into friendly relations with them, collecting ethnological objects, and gathering information of their life, geographical distribution and customs, with those also of the Parecí.

The Parecí give the names Utílkoikoríand Cutiahaniré to the Nhambiquára, thus dividing them into two groups. Individuals of the latter group have darker skins and are more warlike. Colonel Rondon appears to have cleared up the meaning of the name Kabixí, which has been a cause of confusion, as often happens with collective names like Bugre, Tapuya, Guayeurú and others. The dwellers in Villa Bella (Matto Grosso) were accustomed to call Kabixí those Indians whom the Parecí called Utílkoikoré, and who, as now stated, are Nhambiquára. This name of Utílkoikoré is given by the Parecí of the sub-tribes Kazimití and Uaimaré of the rivers Arinos, Sacuriá-iná, Tabóra-iná and Timalatiá to their kindred of the Kozárini group who inhabit the upper parts of the *Rio Verde*, the Julia, Caloçal and Jauruí. The term Kabixí is derogatory, implying an inferior condition.

The Nhambiquára are usually of medium height; they have large teeth, the abdomen rather prominent, muscular thighs, slender legs and well made feet. They perforate the nostrils, the nasal septum and the ear-lobes. Through the holes made in the nose they pass small pieces of wood, and from the ear lobes they hang ornaments made of small beads of cocoon. They wear armlets, bracelets, leg ornaments and head collars made from the fruit of the mucúcha. They live by the chase, but also plant maize, yams, potatoes, manihot, and bananas. They smoke leaves similar to Brazilian tobacco and do not use hammocks but sleep on the ground, like the Campa-atsiri and the Amúdes of the Gran Pajonal.

In the collection made by Colonel Rondon for the National Museum at Rio de Janeiro there is an alimentary paste similar to the Kétchí of the Parecí, made from pounded manihot. The native *breu* or bitumen is used with string to fasten arrow points to their shafts. It appears to be a mixture of Cuminí and wax, and is preserved in leaves of the Malé-malé palm. It melts at a very low temperature.

To fell trees a stone axe, fixed in a wooden handle by means of cord and bitumen, is used. The Indian who succeeds in felling certain trees with this primitive instrument receives as reward an *arara* or mutúm feather for a nose-ornament. Such a decoration is usually reserved for warlike prowess among the natives of Brazil. The bows are large, strong, of red wood and well-polished, with semi-cylindrical transversal section. Those in the Rondon collection vary from 1m. 60 to 2m. 38 in length. To draw an arrow of 50cm. between the larger bow and its string of tucum a traction force of 60 kilos. is necessary, as verified by the dynamometer. There are five types of arrows. They have two musical instruments, one, a double flute made of two pieces of bamboo tied together, the other, two concave disks of calabash, about 8 cm. in diameter, united at the edges by a strip of Malé-malé and *breu*. The upper disk has three orifices.

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experiment with the resinous, supposedly poisonous substance found on the tip of one of these arrows. He injected a concentrated solution of it into frogs and guinea pigs, and the only resulting symptoms were muscular twinchings, unsteady gait, and some salivation.]

[Fig. 60]

411 Aiarçú: The tip is blunt; it is used to stun birds that are to be caught alive or free from blood, which stains the feathers. [See fig. ... (59), p.55A.] Often a smooth tip wrapped in a straw pellet is used for the same purpose.

[227] [274] Some unique fishing arrows have a double, triple or quadruple tip and a bone barb. [See fig. ... (37), p. 368.] Some have feathers at the base, others do not. . . . .

All Serra do Norte arrows have shafts made of thin bamboo. The various parts of the weapon are secured with strips of the strong [324] imbé liana (Philodendron imbe, Mart.).

[Fig. 61] The clubs are extremely crude weapons of attack and defense, mere portions of thick branches cut when the occasion demands it.

[324] [275] The axes of chipped stone are uniform in type. They are wedge-shaped, made of diorite, and they average two kilograms in weight. The handle is a piece of creeper stem, perhaps from a Bauhinia. The pitch and cord used to fasten the stone make the tool surprisingly strong. . . . .

381 The pitch is made of mastic resin, jatai (Hymenea stigonocarpa [324] or H. stilbocarpa), and wax, as well as other unknown substances. It is placed in pots and subjected to the action of fire, then kept in pellets fastened to embira strips or in loaves wrapped in leaves. Both the arrow "poison" and the axe pitch are called by the name of duhutaarú, which means "wax."

[Fig. 62]

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Fig. 62. Pot containing pitch.